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Atty. Dkt. No. 040679/1173

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Masahiro ARAI et al.  
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING  
INTAKE AIR BY VARIABLE VALVE TIMING  
Appl. No.: 09/727,554  
Filing Date: December 4, 2000  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.



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**CONCISE EXPLANATION OF  
RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Document A6 is a foreign counterpart to Document A1.

The relevance of Documents A4 and A7 is described in the present specification.

An English translation of Document A7 is not readily available; however, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). An English language abstract is attached.

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b) within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-identified application.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date January 12, 2001

By

FOLEY & LARDNER  
Washington Harbour  
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20007-5109  
Telephone: (202) 672-5414  
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Richard L. Schwaab  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 25,479

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